

Application No.: 10/751,717
Date of Response: 08/05/2004
Reply to Action of: 07/09/2004

REMARKS

This Amendment is being entered in response to the Office Action of July 9, 2004. In this Office Action, the Examiner made the following objections and rejections:

- 5 1. The Examiner issued a Restriction Requirement.
2. The Examiner objected to claim 15 alleging a lack of proper antecedent basis.
3. The Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 5-19, 34, and 35 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting.
- 10 4. The Examiner has acknowledged that claims 4, 20, and 21 are substantially allowed.

In this Response, applicants affirm the telephone election made on June 10, 2004. An amendment to claim 15 has been entered to address the alleged antecedent basis issue raised by the Examiner. A Terminal Disclaimer has been
15 filed to obviate the double patenting Rejection. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

1. The Examiner issued a Restriction Requirement

The Examiner has requested affirmation of the telephone election made
20 on June 10, 2004. Applicants hereby affirm the election of claims 1-21, 34, and 35 for prosecution on the merits.

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2. The Examiner objected to claim 15 alleging a lack of proper antecedent basis

The Examiner has objected to claim 15 stating:

5 Claim 15 is objected to because the recitation of "said
 image" on line 1 lacks proper antecedent basis.

Correction is required.

To facilitate the prosecution of this application, appellants have amended the claim to clarify their invention. Claim 15 now refers to "said imaged transferable covercoat" which was first recited in claim 1. It is respectfully
10 submitted that the antecedent basis rejection has been obviated.

3. The Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 5-19, 34, and 35 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting

15 The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3, 5-19, 34, and 35 under the
 judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting in view of United States patent 6,722,271 (serial number 10/080,783). Applicants note that the instant application claims priority from this patent, and therefore, no unjust extension of patent term would be granted in any event. Nevertheless, to facilitate the prosecution of this application, a terminal disclaimer has been filed.
20 It is respectfully submitted that the double patenting rejection has been obviated.

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**4. The Examiner has acknowledged that claims 4, 20, and 21 are
substantially allowed**

The Examiner has acknowledged the existence of allowable subject matter stating:

5 Claims 4, 20, and 21 are objected to as being
 dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be
 allowable if rewritten in independent form including all
 of the limitations of the base claim and any
 intervening claims.

10 Applicants note that claims 4, 20, and 21 are all dependent, either directly
 or indirectly, on rejected claim 3. Applicants further note that rejected claim 3
 was rejected solely on double patenting grounds. As a terminal disclaimer has
 clearly obviated the double patenting rejection of claim 3, the rejection of claims
 4, 20, and 21 are likewise obviated.

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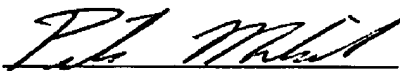
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CONCLUSION

Applicants have complied with the Examiner's requests and have placed all claims in condition for allowance.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If, for any reason, the Patent Examiner believes that a telephone conference with applicants' agent might in any way facilitate the prosecution of this case, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call such agent.

Respectfully submitted,
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By 

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